

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03687 031425Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01 SP-02
EB-04 INR-05 CIAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-03 DODE-00
/043 W

-----045641 031431Z /53

R 030952Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2184
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3687

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2/IMPDET
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, JO
SUBJECT: STATUS OF \$140 MILLION TRANSFER FROM SAUDI ARABIA TO JORDAN

REF: A) AMMAN 3272, B) AMMAN 0099

1. AT BEGINNING OF RECENT CONVERSATION (REPORTED REF A) WITH FARHI OBAID, HE MENTIONED TO EMBOFF, AS HE HAD ON OTHER RECENT OCCASION, THAT BADRAN GOVERNMENT IS MUCH LESS INCLINED THAN PREDECESSOR RIFAI GOVERNMENT TO SHARE INFORMATION REGARDING BUDGET DEVELOPMENTS AND PROBLEMS WITH USG, PARTICULARLY ON ARAB BUDGET SUPPORT. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY THAT WHILE HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF DISPOSITION OF \$140 MILLION SAUDI TRANSFER, HE WAS NOT AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS IT AT ALL WITH EMBASSY OFFICER. (IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, ANOTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO HAS IRREGULARLY PROVIDED RELIABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING GOJ BUDGET TOLD US THAT ENTIRE \$140 MILLION HAD BEEN SPENT FOR ROUTINE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, I.E., PLUGGING UP HOLES IN BUDGET. THIS SOURCE, NO FRIEND OF BADRAN, ADDED THAT SPEED IN SPENDING THIS LARGE AMOUNT WAS INSPIRED BY BADRAN FEAR THAT HE WOULD SOON BE REPLACED
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PAGE 02 AMMAN 03687 031425Z

AS PM: IN THAT EVENT BADRAN DID NOT WANT HIS SUCCESSOR TO BE ABLE TO CLAIM CREDIT FOR AMELIORATING BUDGET CRUNCH WITH FUNDS THAT HAD BEEN AVAILABLE TO BADRAN.)

2. OBAID ESTIMATED THAT TOTAL "MILITARY AND CIVILIAN" (SIC) BUDGET DEFICIT LEFT FROM 1976 WAS IN RANGE OF 40 MILLION JD (PUBLISHED BUDGET DOCUMENT RECORDS DEFICIT

AT HALF THAT AMOUNT). THIS FIGURE SQUARES WITH
DETAILED BUDGET INFORMATION PROVIDED REFTEL B, PARA 10,
IF, AS WE SUSPECT, 10 MILLION JD IN ARAB BUDGET SUPPORT
RECEIVED IN 1976 WAS USED PARTIALLY TO COVER 1975 DEFICIT.

3. WHILE IT IS CERTAIN THAT GOJ CONTINUES TO SUFFER
CUSTOMARY CASH FLOW PROBLEM, DETAILS OF CURRENT SITUATION
ARE ELUSIVE. WE WILL BE MAKING COCERTEED EFFORT TO
CLARIFY.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FUND ALLOTMENT, GOVERNMENT BUDGET
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: X2 IMPDET
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770237-0531
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: EAID, EFIN, JO, SA
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